

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 00223 252251Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EA-12
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 OIC-02
/132 W

-----014485 261548Z /43

R 251710Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9208
INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS USUN 0223

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNGA
SUBJ: COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24) ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

1. SUMMARY. ON JANUARY 24, FOLLOWING INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM, THE C-24 UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS FOR ITS 1978 SESSION: CHAIRMAN, TANZANIAN PERM REP SALIM; VICE-CHAIRMEN, TRINIDADIAN PERM REP ABDULLAH, SWEDISH PERM REP THUNBORG, BULGARIAN MISOFF NEYTCHEV; RAPPORTEUR, SYRIAN MISOFF GLAYEL. THE ABOVE LINE-UP IS THE SAME AS LAST YEAR'S WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SWEDEN, WHICH REPLACED NORWAY. END SUMMARY.

2. IN BRIEF OPENING REMARKS AT THE INITIAL MEETING OF THE C-24 IN 1978, SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM NOTED THAT 1978 WOULD BE A "CRUCIAL AND HIGHLY PRESSING" YEAR FOR DECOLONIZATION MATTERS. IN PARTICULAR, HE NOTED THE NECESSITY FOR PROGRESS IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA AND THE NEED TO ADDRESS THE "DELICATE" PROBLEMS RELATED TO DECOLONIZATION IN THE
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PAGE 02 USUN N 00223 252251Z

SMALL TERRITORIES.

3. FOLLOWING THE UNANIMOUS ELECTION OF OFFICERS (REPORTED ABOVE), C-24 CHAIRMAN SALIM ALSO COMMENTED ON THE DIFFICULTIES YET TO BE OVERCOME IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA BEFORE DECOLONIZATION CAN BE ACHIEVED IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE EMPHASIZED IN BOTH CASES THE NEED TO MAINTAIN THE LEVEL OF INTERNATIONAL

SUPPORT. SALIM NOTED, AS HAD WALDHEIM, THAT MANY OF THE SMALL TERRITORIES ARE MOVING CLOSER TO INDEPENDENCE OR SELF-GOVERNMENT. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF THE SITUATION IN EACH SMALL TERRITORY COULD BE COMPLETED IN 1978.

4. IN BRIEF ACCEPTANCE SPEECHES, THUNBORG, NEYTHCHEV, GLAYEL AND TRINIDADIAN MISOFF SEALY (SPEAKING FOR THE ABSENT ABDULLAH) ALL REITERATED THEIR DEDICATION TO THE CAUSE OF DECOLONIZATION.

5. SALIM THEN ANNOUNCED THAT CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITH THE COMMITTEE BUREAU AND MEMBERS TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1978.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN00223
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780039-0073
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780122/aaaaashf.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 404d09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3713524
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24) ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, C-24
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/404d09e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014